

May 23, 2021

Scott's Thoughts



“And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’”

And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.’” (Luke 12:16–18, ESV)

I have a friend who lives on Long Island in New York. She has asked for prayers for a young lady she knows. This young lady is only twenty-one years old and graduated this month with a master's degree. That sounds incredible and is a real reason to celebrate. However, the sad part is that she's receiving treatments for colon cancer and has been told it is terminal. For the friends and family of this precious young lady, it may seem like nothing in their future could be good.

When the phone rings at 5:00 a.m. and we can tell just from the sound of the voice at the other end it is not good news. We tend to think if God is good, and He is, then how can this happen? Only a few have any real idea when they will die but when faced with an almost certain death, we have two choices. We can make a bucket list and do wild and crazy things trying to pack a lifetime of living into just a few months,

weeks, or days. That might satisfy a few desires but will not really bring a lot of satisfaction. The other choice is to take the time to look deeply at ourselves and our relationship with God. Facing eternity and knowing God, brings a security and certain hope that extend beyond the grave.

As I think back over the years, most of the funerals I have attended were for people who had plans for the days ahead. We all know we are going to die but we all still make plans for the next week, month, year, or five years. I'm no different. Knowing I will die does not cause me to cower in the corner and weep for all that will be lost. Nor does it cause me to do extravagant things trying to satisfy my own selfish desires. Yes, I have plans for the rest of this month, next month, the remainder of the year and next year. Yet over and above those plans, it does cause me to examine my own personal relationship with God every day. More than anything I want to spend eternity with God. I want as many as possible to be there with Jesus forever and ever and ever.

“And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.” ’ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’” (Luke 12:19–20, ESV)

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.

—Scott